

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTO 03408 211814Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /082 W
-----013410 211819Z /45

P R 211755Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5060
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 3408

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PINS, DR
SUBJECT: ELECTORAL SITUATION: CALM BUT EXPECTANT

1. THE ELECTORAL CLIMATE CONTINUES TO BE ONE OF REDUCED TENSION BUT THERE REMAINS CONTINUED HIGH EXPECTANCY OVER FUTURE ACTIONS BY THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL BOARD (JCE). THE BOARD DID NOT MEET YESTERDAY, JUNE 20, AND WILL RESUME HEARINGS THIS MORNING ON CHALLENGES TO THE MAY 16 ELECTIONS. THE JCE WILL REPORTEDLY HEAR TODAY TWENTY NEW APPEALS TO MUNICIPAL ELECTION BOARD RULINGS IN ADDITION TO THE TEN ALREADY UNDER REVIEW.

2. THE USE OF CHILEAN COMPUTER EXPERTS BY THE JCE CONTINUED TO CAPTURE PUBLIC DEBATE. RECTORS OF THE THREE PRINCIPAL DOMINICAN UNIVERSITIES PROTESTED THE CONTRACTING OF THE CHILEANS AND OFFERED THEIR FACILITIES FOR CARRYIN G OUT THE INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED IRREGULARITIES IN VOTER REGISTRATION LISTS. THE USE OF THE CHILEANS WAS FORMALLY CHALLENGED (RECUSADO) BY THE PRD AND BY THE DEMOCRATIC QUISQUEYAN PARTY (PQD) OF FORMER GENERAL ELIAS WESSIN Y WESSIN, WHO RECENTLY RETURNED TO THE COUNTRY AFTER SEVEN YEARS OF EXILE. WESSIN PERSONALLY APPEARED AT JCE. RESPECTABLE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SANTO 03408 211814Z

LISTIN DIARIO YESTERDAY EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT ALL THE FUSS OVER THE CHILEANS WAS "EXAGGERATED" AND CALLED ON PUBLIC TO VIEW IMMEDIATE FUTURE WITH "CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM."

3. PRESIDENT-ELECT ANTONIO GUZMAN, INTERVIEWED BY REPORTERS YESTERDAY, EXPRESSED VIEW THAT DOMINICAN SITUATION WOULD BE THEME DEALT WITH DURING VIII OASGA. GUZMAN BLAMED THE JCE

FOR UNNECESSARY DELAYS IN NAMING A WINNER OF DR ELECTIONS. HE EXPRESSED HOPE, HOWEVER, THAT JCE DECISION WOULD BE MADE SOON. HE THOUGHT CURRENT ECONOMIC DECLINE WOULD QUICKLY BE REVERSED FOLLOWING JCE DECISION.

4. WITH THE JCE IN RECESS THE DEBATE OVER THE ELECTORAL SITUATION MOVED YESTERDAY INTO THE RADIO AND TELEVISION MEDIA. THIS TIME IT WAS THE SEEMINGLY INDEFATIGABLE "VINCHO" CASTILLO, REFORMISTA "LEGAL ADVISOR" VS. PRD SEC GEN JOSE FRANCISCO PENA GOMEZ. PENA WENT ON THE AIR YESTERDAY AFTERNOON ON "TRIBUNA DEMOCRATICA," THE PRD'S DAILY RADIO PROGRAM, TO BLAS "VINCHO" AS A "RACIST" AND A TRUJILLOIST. HE WAS RESPONDING TO SOME REMARKS BY "VINCHO" MADE THE PREVIOUS EVENING. "VINCHO," WHO APPEARS TO RECEIVE UNLIMITED AMOUNTS OF FREE TIME ON THE GOVERNMENT TELEVISION NETWORK, ATTACKED PENA LAST NIGHT, DRAWING UPON ALL THE IMAGES OF PENA USED DURING THIS YEAR'S ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN AS THE SPOKESMAN OF "REBELLION AND CHAOS."

5. MEANWHILE, AS IF THE ELECTORAL SITUATION WAS NOT ALREADY COMPLICATED ENOUGH, FORMER PRESIDENT JUAN BOSCH GOT INTO THE ACT BY FORMALLY REGISTERING A COMPLAINT BEFORE THE SANTO DOMINGO DISTRICT ATTORNEY AGAINST VICE-PRESIDENT-ELECT JACOBO MAJLUTA CHARGING MAJLUTA WITH DEFAMATION AND PERSONAL DAMAGE. THE CHARGE STEMS FROM STATEMENTS ON A TV TALK SHOW LAST APRIL IN WHICH MAJLUTA

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SANTO 03408 211814Z

SAID BOSCH HAD RECEIVED A SALARY OF 1,000 PESOS A MONTH WHEN HE WAS PARTY PRESIDENT OF THE PRD. (APPARENTLY BOSCH BELIEVES MAJLUTA'S STATEMENT THAT HE DREW A SALARY WHILE HE WAS LEADER OF THE PRD IMPUGNS HIS HIGH MOTIVES AT THAT TIME IN WORKING FOR THE PARTY.) FOR GOOD MEASURE BOSCH'S COMPLAINT WAS ALSO EXTENDED TO THE DIRECTOR OF A NEWSPAPER WHICH REPORTED MAJLUTA'S STATEMENT AS A STRAIGHT NEWS ACCOUNT.

YOST

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANTO03408
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780259-0216
Format: TEL
From: SANTO DOMINGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780635/aaaabedo.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bd423984-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2264142
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ELECTORAL SITUATION: CALM BUT EXPECTANT
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PINS, DR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bd423984-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014